

## LONDON TAILOR-MADE GOWNS

Those for September Will Have Small Balloon Sleeves.

BLACK IN EVERYTHING THAT IS WORN.

The Waists Are to Be Slightly Bloused. The Gown for Autumn Wear in Town is the London Tailor-Made Dress, Elaborate Dresses.

LONDON, Aug. 26.—This is the season of the year when the tailor-made gown comes to the fore and the Paris modiste designs her supremacy to the London tailor. Paris dressmakers design gowns for every season but one, and that is the September and October season now coming in.

The gown for the first autumn wear in town is the tailor-made. This does not mean the severe tight-fitting dress, but the one that is marked by plainness and simplicity and an exquisite neatness of finish.

Three of these newest tailor-made dresses were worn recently by three titled American women who went out shopping one morning and stopped a minute upon the curb for a consultation.

One wore a gown of old-fashioned cloth with a silk design upon the face of it. The design was traced in dark brown upon a tan ground. The waist was laid in the folds that tapered to the belt line. A light cloth cape with Medici collar with a ruff of lace was clasped at the neck under a fichu of lace.

The second one was dressed in a cloth "dolman" of black and brown stripes. This dress was perfectly plain save for the plain brown satin neck and belt ribbon. There was a stitched finish to the sleeves and a pressed effect to the seams of the skirt that marked the tailor-made dress.

The third wore a striped taffeta in two shades of green, the dark green stripes standing out upon a light green ground. A figured design in dark green silk passementerie outlined the figure above the belt line.

The full tailor-made gowns are called carriage dresses, though they are not always worn by those who drive. The skirt that they are for shopping and that reaches the shopping district a woman must take cab or street car, makes them "carriage gowns" in the language of the ladies' tailor.

ELABORATE DRESSER. There are still a great number of fascinating women in Paris who have never become converts to the bicycle craze. They prefer taking their afternoon outings in the Bois in their victorias, while their more athletic inclined sisters skirt by in their elegant cloth bicycle costumes looking intensely warm.

My lady in her victoria is the personification of luxury. Her gown is of some very light material, all frilled and fluffy, that is delightfully gratifying to look upon during the warm afternoons. One of the exquisite frilled chiffon parasols is always in evidence. It is always chosen with an eye to becomingness. In the early part of the afternoon this parasol my lady holds over her face at just such

As summer is not quite gone there are still parties on the lawn; and at these parties the London tailor-made dresses are also worn.

In a group of three that were at a lawn party not far from Battersea I noticed a lovely cream poplin, made with exquisite neatness, and a tan ladies' cloth. The lightest effects were visible, and when I spoke to a tailor about this he assured me that cream color would be worn all winter, and that it would be a common sight to see a sealskin cloak over a skirt of steel, tan, pale green or gray wool.

"The contrast," added he, "will give a note of smartness and an interest not always noticed in winter gowns."

NINA GOODWIN.

VICTORIA HAS THREE CROWNS. Her Insignia of Supreme Power in Britain Has Been Worn But Once.

The only crown that is likely to be used during the state functions of the commemoration is the tiara, which is familiar to this generation in sketches of the queen when holding a drawing-room. This was manufactured by the State jeweler in 1852 at the personal cost of her majesty, and in general terms may be said to weigh eight Troy ounces. It is a light shell of gold, entirely encrusted with diamonds, and comprises 2,753 brilliants, besides 523 rose diamonds, making an aggregate of 3,276 stones. It is retained in the charge of the sovereign, of whom it is a personal possession, and to all intents and purposes never requires any attention. It was specifically devised for use in conjunction with a veil, and apart from the drawing-rooms, has scarcely been used at all.

This crown was preceded in point of time by a diadem or circlet of gold, choicely bejeweled, which was made for the queen in 1855. The stones used on this occasion, which are wholly diamonds, were in the main crown jewels, and the diadem, therefore, remain the property of the crown, although the cost of mounting them for the use of her majesty was borne out of the privy purse. This diadem is technically known as a circlet, surmounted by the crown piece (whereof the Maltese cross is a decoration variant), and the fleur-de-lis. The general effect of this is excellently shown in the current coinage, in which it is half concealed by a veil, which was not worn in the earlier years of the reign, when this form of circlet was in ordinary use, and, indeed, there would seem to be some doubt as to whether the particular form of circlet depicted on the present coin issues has ever been adopted by the queen in actual use at all. It was this diadem, and another of a like shape that preceded it, which were used when her Majesty opened or prorogued parliament, and also on such occasions as the marriage of the princess royal.

On every occasion on which the Queen took a Kensington prize for appearing last week and the Countess of Essex one the week before.

Another part of the "gymkhana" is the plank-riding contest, where the cyclists try to see how long they can ride along a line of narrow planks. This is not as easy as one would think at first. Let any woman try it the next time she goes out on her wheel if she thinks it is easy. Then there is the side-saddle race, in which the women sit side saddle on their wheels and pedal with one foot only.

The sportive Maude of Wales, now the Princess Carl of Denmark, wheeled side saddle half a "century" in London one day in June.

All American women would better begin to practice these things, for the time is at hand when, instead of injuring their health by long and laborious rides, the sensible ones will go in for these gymkhana affairs, where they can benefit their health and have a lot of fun at the same time. The fact that in these trials of skill the women can most of the time beat the men ought to make them popular with all the "weaker vessels." The great success of the Queen's Club gymkhana has assured the continuance of such contests, and English women "do gymkhana" and talk gymkhana wherever two of them owning wheels get together. The Princess of Wales seldom cycles, but does "gymkhana" upon her wheel in the Sandringham grounds.

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## "GYMKHANA" FOR CYCLISTS.

A Swagger Wheel Entertainment Originated by the Queen's Club.

## SOME GYMNASTICS ON THE BICYCLE

Lady Randolph Churchill Carried Off the Prize for Tent Pegging—Spoon and Egg Races and Bending.

LONDON, August 31.—Women and men in England do not go in so much, for century runs and that sort of thing as do the women and men of the States.

This country. They do not in their contests tire themselves all out and lay up for a week after with limbs and muscles strained and sore, but devote themselves rather to contests which require experience and nerve. In these contests the women frequently set the best of the men. A popular form of sport comprises such contests as "spoon-and-egg races," "bending," "tent-pegging," &c. This is called "gymkhana."

A "gymkhana" means gymnastics upon a wheel, and it is the newest word in fashion.

A most "swagger" "gymkhana" was held recently at Queen's Club, Kensington, and one of the interesting things about the contests was, that in those games open both to men and women, the women beat their sweethearts and brothers easily.

This was especially noticeable in the "bending" contest, where two pretty girls were more than equal to their masculine rivals.

A bending contest, by the way, consists of riding in and out along a row of nine pins.

A spoon-and-egg race consists in guiding the wheel with one hand and carrying in the other an egg in a spoon, no easy thing to do and win a race at the same time. A highly popular item in these "gymkhana" affairs is tent-pegging. The pegs consist of six cardboard disks placed in a 30-yard course. The contestants ride along with a sharp spear and tries to pick the disks up. The one picking up the most with his or her spear is the winner, though in case two contestants pick up an equal number the heat is decided by their relative positions as regards speed. In the Kensington tournament a special prize was given "costume, control of machine, position and general style." This was won by the daughter of a former Lord Mayor of London.

The titled American women are very expert at this. Lady Randolph Churchill expert at this. Lady Randolph Churchill took a Kensington prize for appearing last week and the Countess of Essex one the week before.

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track once as quickly as possible without touching the handle bars. The Duke of Marlborough sportively tries this game at Bletchley with his wife's girl friends.

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